

# Luke 22:39-65 (Jesus in Jerusalem – Study 5)

## *Prayer, Faithfulness & Failure*

Have you ever felt frustrated that you're not improving at something (e.g. language, music, sport...) and wondered why?

### **Prayer in the Garden: Read verses 39-46**

1) What does Jesus urge his disciples to do and why?

2) How do you think the command he gives his disciples relates to his own prayer?

3) Read this (very confronting!) passage from Jeremiah 25 and discuss how it helps us understand what Jesus means by 'take this cup from me'?

<sup>15</sup> This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, said to me: "Take from my hand this cup filled with the wine of my wrath and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. <sup>16</sup> When they drink it, they will stagger and go mad because of the sword I will send among them." <sup>17</sup> So I took the cup from the LORD'S hand and made all the nations to whom he sent me drink it...

<sup>27</sup> "Then tell them, 'This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: Drink, get drunk and vomit, and fall to rise no more because of the sword I will send among you.' <sup>28</sup> But if they refuse to take the cup from your hand and drink, tell them, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: You must drink it! <sup>29</sup> See, I am beginning to bring disaster on the city that bears my Name, and will you indeed go unpunished? You will not go unpunished, for I am calling down a sword on all who live on the earth, declares the LORD Almighty.'

<sup>30</sup> "Now prophesy all these words against them and say to them: " 'The LORD will roar from on high; he will thunder from his holy dwelling and roar mightily against his land. He will shout like those who tread the grapes, shout against all who live on the earth. <sup>31</sup> The tumult will resound to the ends of the earth, for the LORD will bring charges against the nations; he will bring judgment on all mankind and put the wicked to the sword,' "declares the LORD.

<sup>32</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: "Look! Disaster is spreading from nation to nation; a mighty storm is rising from the ends of the earth." <sup>33</sup> At that time those slain by the LORD will be everywhere—from one end of the earth to the other. They will not be mourned or gathered up or buried, but will be like dung lying on the ground.

4) What does Jesus prayer reveal about:

- Jesus himself, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus?

- The necessity of Jesus' death for our salvation? What are some practical implications of this?

## **Betrayal in the Garden: Read Verses 47-53**

5) What stands out to you from this scene?

6) What do you think would motivate the disciples to want to strike at this crowd with their swords? What assumptions about Jesus and his kingdom does their question (and action!) reveal?

7) What message does Jesus' response in v51 send?

8) What do you think Jesus is pointing out in verses 52-53?

## **Denial in the Courtyard: Read verses 54-65**

9) Read verses 33-34 again. What do you think would cause Peter to go from such bold claims to denying Jesus so quickly?

In what kind of situations do you think you would be tempted to react in a similar way to Peter?

10) In light of verses 60-61, what is so sad and ironic about verses 63-64?

11) This passage reveals two of Jesus' twelve disciples, Peter and Judas, both denying or betraying Jesus. But the future of these two disciples turns out very different. What do you think their 'similar but different' actions and reactions are meant to teach us?

12) How do you think Jesus' command back in verses 40 & 46 relates to the scenes that follow? What overall point do you think is being made through the passage?

## **Reflection**

\* Discuss what it might look like in practice to follow Jesus example and pray for faithfulness and temptation? What does it really look like to 'pray earnestly'?

\* What are some of the things that get in the way of you heeding Jesus' call to prayer? How can you take steps to 'get up and pray'?